

Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
09/935,710

REMARKS

Claims 1-21 are pending in the application. Claims 19 and 20 have been placed in independent form. Claims 19-21 were allowable and now should be allowed. Claims 1-18 are rejected and have been cancelled.

Claim Rejections -35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Foreman (5,521,444) in view of Corcoran (5,031,992) in further view of Koyama (5,331,354) and JP 222489. This rejection is traversed as being moot in light of the cancellation of claims 1-18.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

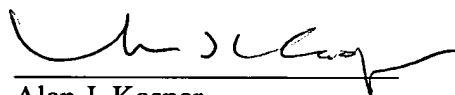
Respectfully submitted,

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER



Alan J. Kasper
Registration No. 25,426

Date: February 18, 2004